

## Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:MJPLATT

APPROVED BY P-MR. HABIB

ARA-MR. TODMAN

EUR/NE-MR. SHUMATE (DRAFT)

S/S:SGOLDSMITH

-----050318Z 007788 /12

O 050259Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL BELIZE IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

SECRET STATE 102154

EXDIS FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, GT, UK, GH

SUBJECT: BELIZE DISPUTE

1. SECRETARY VANCE AND BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN  
DISCUSSED THE BELIZE PROBLEM DURING THE SECRETARY'S VISIT  
TO LONDON IN APRIL. AT THAT TIME, SECRETARY TOLD OWEN  
THAT WE WOULD CONSIDER SOUNDING OUT THE GUATEMALAN MINIMUM  
TERRITORIAL DEMAND.

2. SECRETARY HAS REVIEWED THE MATERIAL THE GUATEMALAN  
FONMIN LEFT WITH HIM DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON. YOU  
ARE REQUESTED TO APPROACH THE GUATEMALANS REGARDING THEIR  
MINIMUM TERRITORIAL DEMAND. TO THIS END, YOU SHOULD MAKE  
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AN APPOINTMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH FONMIN TO DISCUSS  
THIS MATTER WITH HIM.

3. YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT THIS ISSUE HAS BEEN OF CON-  
CERN TO US FOR SOME TIME, AND THAT THE TERRITORIAL ASPECT  
APPEARS TO BE THE ONE CAUSING MOST DIFFICULTY. WE ARE  
CONCERNED LEST THE NEGOTIATIONS DRAG ON INCONCLUSIVELY, OR

WORSE YET, REACH AN IMPASSE ON THE TERRITORIAL ISSUE.

4. YOU SHOULD POINT OUT THAT OUR ACTION IN SOUNDING OUT  
GUATEMALA'S POSITION ON TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS DOES NOT

MEAN THAT THE U.S. IS PROPOSING TO ASSUME THE ROLE OF  
MEDIATOR. RATHER WE WOULD LIKE TO CONSULT WITH THE  
GUATEMALANS TO SEE IF THERE MAY BE SOME ROOM FOR MANEUVER  
ON THIS THORNY QUESTION. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, NEGOTIATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 05-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE102154  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** MJPLATT  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770157-0438  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 0b67179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2627368  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BELIZE DISPUTE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PBOR, GT, UK, GH, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (OWEN, DAVID)  
**To:** GUATEMALA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/0b67179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009